



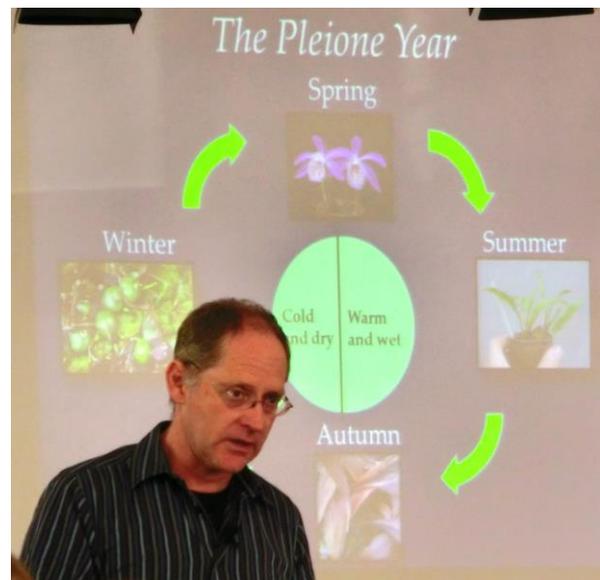
NEWSLETTER of the HOWICK ORCHID SOCIETY Inc.

June 2013

NEXT meeting Sun 14th July 2013

NEXT MEETING: Speaker will be confirmed by separate email.
Chris Hubbart is our speaker this month and he will be talking about
["A visit to the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, California, March 2013"](#)

LAST MEETING: A very interesting and informative talk with slides by Ross Bicknell was well received by 65 members and guests from other societies. Ross went into a lot of detail which was simply presented but in clear enough terms so that even the beginner would understand how to grow Pleiones. Ross had a comprehensive selection for sale so we look forward to seeing these in flower later in the year from our members who bought these. HOS thanks the OCNZ for sponsoring Ross' trip north and Ross for his time touring the North Island clubs for a week.



EDITOR'S COMMENT

Show season will soon be upon us and the first one where we will erect a display is at NZOS (Mt Albert) from 13 -14 July. Please contact Anton 537 1251 or Kathy 576 9636 if you can bring some flowering orchids to this on Frid 12th July. We have always managed to put up a decent display at the shows we support but can only do this with your plants. It is a time of the year when you should be watching for spikes and getting them trained on stakes early before they head off at funny angles making them difficult to present and transport. Flowers ideally should not be obscured by foliage and not drooping down making it difficult to see the front of the flower. Be careful with ties especially the plastic spring clips. They can often be too tight restricting development and even squashing the stem. Don't try to bend your spike to the required angle at once but do it in stages otherwise it may break while still brittle. Flowers coming in groups on one stem (such as Cattleyas) can be spread out by using cotton wool or sponge. If this is not done they can force each other into odd angles and bunch up.

CULTURE

The warm winter just seems to keep on going which is good in one respect but the high rainfall is not so beneficial to orchids that need to dry out. We have had very little wind and combined with short days makes it a little tricky to water your plants hoping they will dry off before nightfall. Fertiliser should in general only be minimal now but if your plants are still putting on new growth they will require some.

Botrytis (fungal flower spotting) is always a problem with the high humidity from the frequent rain and cooler temperatures. There are two ways to avoid it. Spraying or moving your plants as soon as they develop a flowering bud to a sheltered airy position such as indoors. (Mine go from the orchid house to the roofed but open sided porch). Botrytis ruins flowers overnight with unsightly spotting and they cannot be displayed in that condition.

Keep an eye out for aphids and mealy bugs as this year they have had a lot longer to breed due to the favourable conditions. Mealy bugs are very difficult to control once established in a plant and a constant watch must be kept for them. Both of these pests head for the flowers or buds. White scale (on Cattleyas especially) is another persistent problem. A quick kill of these insects can be achieved with a diluted alcohol/oil/detergent solution. This is very effective as it breaks down the waxy or fluffy layer protecting many of the pests.



Plant of the month, *Calanthe vestita* from Dennis Chuah
(Photo Michelle Tung)



Mick Hughes' *Zygo Kiwi Susan* (May meeting)

Plants On Display (June meeting)

Compiled by **Michelle Tung**

(Plant names in bold type denote label changes are recommended - either incorrect spelling or a new name of a registered hybrid)

(Use of italics denotes that the plant or parent plant is a species)

Open Section

Dennis Chuah

A basket of 5 *Calanthe vestita*

FIRST

Phil Funnel

C. C.G. Roebing and 1 *Masdevallia*

Wendy Gilligan

Epidendrum ciliare

Frances Henrich/Ros Mackay

1 *Barkeria*

Mick Hughes

1 *Cymbidium*

Grahame Leafberg

1 *Dendrobium*, 1 *Cymbidium* and

Dendrochilum latifolium

PLANT OF THE MONTH

William & Man Lo	1 Paphiopedilum, 1 Masdevallia, 1 Zygopetalum, 1 Cirrhopetalum and <i>Den. Kuniko</i>	SECOND
Raewyn McCormack	1 Cattleya	
John Muddiman	2 Dendrobium	
Glenn & Manee Poffley	1 Dendrobium, 1 Ansellia, 2 Masdevallia, 2 Cattleya, 5 Oncidium Alliance, 1 Maxillaria and 1 Zygopetalum	
Ron Reeves	1 Dendrochilum, 1 Maxillaria and <i>Onc. ornithorhynchum</i>	
Kathy Rimmer	1 Laelia, and 1 Epidendrum	
Shirley Sidnam	1 Cattleya, 1 Psychopsis and <i>Huntleya meleagris</i>	THIRD
Lee Stone	1 Masdevallia, 1 Howeara	
Norman Streater	1 Zygopetalum	
Anton and Janet Wehman	1 Paphiopedilum, 1 Epidendrum, 1 Laelia and <i>Bark. skinneri x scandens</i> = Bark. Cyclosky	
Ken & Chui Tse	1 Cattleya and 2 Oncidium Alliance	
N. Townsley	1 Masdevallia, 1 Propetalum, 1 Gomestele and 1 <i>Bark. Cyclosky</i>	

Novice

Lea Joeste	<i>Paph. insigne</i>	FIRST
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Novelty

Phil Funnel	1 Restrepia	
Warren Mullins	1 Epidendrum	
Kathy Rimmer	1 Encyclia and <i>Epidendrum neoporpax</i>	THIRD equal
Shirley Sidnam	3 Restrepia and <i>Den. cuthbertsonii</i> 'R&J'	SECOND
Lee Stone	1 Schoenorchis	
Michelle Tung	<i>Masd. Curly George</i>	FIRST
Anton and Janet Wehman	1 Restrepia, and <i>Angcm. calceolus</i> <i>Nla. pulchella</i>	THIRD equal THIRD equal
Bryce & Lea Westlake	1 Epidendrum	

Commentary was given by **Ross Bicknell** and Glenn Poffley.

Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that asks: 'In case of an emergency, please provide a contact' I usually put 'Doctor'.

I thought I wanted a career, turns out I only wanted the pay checks.

DID you Know? It was 30 years ago (1983) that the Howick Orchid Society was formed after a group belonging to the Howick Horticultural Society decided they were big enough to start up on their own. The Howick Horty group this year celebrated their 90th anniversary. In days past the Horticultural society had over 500 members.



Diane Gurr brought this nicely grown and well presented Degarmoara Skywalker to the May meeting. Now called an Otoprassonia just to confuse us!

RAFFLE

It is good to see we are still maintaining a great selection of orchid plants in our popular raffle.

POPULAR VOTING should be completed during afternoon tea break. It is for the plant you would like to have in your collection, it does not have to be what you consider the best on display.

This Promenaea citrina had great colour and was exhibited by Warren Mullins (May meeting)



Lea Jooste was the only Novice Exhibitor at the June meeting with a large multi flowered plant of Paph. insigne .

Thanks to Michelle for this photo, the Calanthe and also the one on the first page of Ross Bicknell.

A diplomat is a person who tells you to go to hell in such a way that you look forward to the trip

HOS Club meeting Dates for 2013

11th AUG. 8th SEPT. 4th OCT. (Show Set Up)
20th OCT. (Prize Giving) 10th NOV. (Auction)

5th OCT. (SHOW)
8th DEC. (Social)